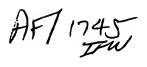


Corres. and Mail BOX AF



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: HAMADA, Akira et al.

Group Art Unit: 1745

Serial No.: 09/998,912

Examiner: J. A. MERCADO

Filed: December 3, 2001

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 4274

For: GAS DIFFUSION LAYER ARRANGEMENT FOR A FUEL CELL (AS

AMENDED)

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
- EXPEDITED RESPONSE GROUP ART UNIT 1745

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 12, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 10, 2004, please amend the above-

identified application as follows:

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